SON OF THE FATHER

Mark 15:1-15

 Like Barabbas, we were on spiritual <u>DEATH</u> row, rightly <u>CONDEMNED</u> before a holy God.

 Like Barabbas, Jesus became our <u>SUBSTITUE</u>, bearing our <u>PENALTY</u> for our sins.

 Like Barabbas, while we were still <u>SINNERS</u>, Jesus loved us.

CHARACTERS

 Like Barabbas, the only thing we bring to our salvation is our <u>SIN</u> and condemnation.

Further Up, Further In

- 1. Read Mark 15:1-15. Do you think it's right to equate our situation outside of Christ to being on death row? Why or why not? (see Rom 1:18, 21-23; 3:10-18)
- 2. What is the meaning of Barabbas' name, and how is this significant? (see Matthew 27:20-21)
- 3. How do we see penal substitutionary atonement in the picture of Barabbas? (see Isa 53:5-6; 1 Pet 2:24; 2 Cor 5:21; Rom 4:22-25)
- 4. Who set Barabbas free? Read Acts 2:22-23 and Acts 4:27-28. How does this impact our understanding of the story of Barabbas?
- 5. Read Romans 5:6-10. What words are used to describe us? Do these seem accurate? How is God's love towards us shown?
- 6. Do you ever struggle with feeling that God is disappointed in you? How does Romans 5:6-10 address this?
- 7. How is Barabbas a picture of grace? (see Romans 3:23-24; 11:6). Is grace unfair?
- 8. How do we continue to live by grace after initially receiving Christ? (see Galatians 1:6, 2:20, 3:3, 5:1-6)
- 9. How did the story of Barabbas help you see the gospel more clearly in your own life?

"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now.... Come further up, come further in!" — C.S. Lewis, <u>The Last Battle</u>